

### **CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

Amended claims: 1-8 and added new claims 9-15.

1. (Currently Amended)     A swirl ~~Swirl~~ tube separator for separating solids from a gas-solid containing feed comprising  
a tubular housing;  
an axial inlet for introducing a gas-solids mixture at one end of said housing, wherein said axial inlet for introducing the gas-solids mixture is provided with swirl imparting means;  
a solids outlet opening at the opposite end of said housing; and  
a co-axial positioned tubular gas outlet conduit placed at an end of said housing such that the solids outlet opening is positioned in the space between the tubular gas outlet conduit and the wall of the tubular housing, wherein along the axis of the tubular housing a vortex extender pin is present.
2. (Currently Amended)     The swirl ~~Swirl~~ tube separator according to claim 1, wherein the pin is present along at least 20% of the axis of the tubular housing, said axis running from the inlet opening of the gas outlet conduit up to the end of the tubular housing opposite said gas outlet conduit.
3. (Currently Amended)     The swirl ~~Swirl~~ tube separator according to claim 2, wherein the pin is present along at between 30 and 100 % of the axis of the tubular housing.
4. (Currently Amended)     The swirl ~~Swirl~~ tube separator according to claim 3, wherein the pin is present along 100 % of the axis of the tubular housing.
5. (Currently Amended)     The swirl ~~Swirl~~ tube separator according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the pin extends from the interior of the gas outlet conduit into the tubular housing and wherein the pin is fixed within the gas outlet conduit by means of supporting means, said supporting means are swirl means which swirl means are positioned such that they decrease the swirling motion of the gas being discharged via the gas outlet conduit.

6. (Currently Amended) The swirl Swirl tube separator according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1-5, wherein the inlet for introducing the gas solids mixture and the gas outlet conduit are arranged at one end of the tubular housing and the solids outlet opening is positioned at the opposite end of said housing.
7. (Currently Amended) Multi separator provided with a plurality parallel operating swirl tube separators according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1-6.
8. (Currently Amended) A process ~~Process~~ to separate solids from a solids laden gaseous mixture having a solids content of between 100 and 500 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> to obtain a gaseous stream containing less than 50 mg solids per Nm<sup>3</sup> in a swirl tube according to ~~any one of claims 1-6 or in a multi separator according to claim 7.~~
9. (New) The swirl tube separator according to claim 1, wherein the pin extends from the interior of the gas outlet conduit into the tubular housing and wherein the pin is fixed within the gas outlet conduit by means of supporting means, said supporting means are swirl means which swirl means are positioned such that they decrease the swirling motion of the gas being discharged via the gas outlet conduit.
10. (New) The swirl tube separator according to claim 2, wherein the pin extends from the interior of the gas outlet conduit into the tubular housing and wherein the pin is fixed within the gas outlet conduit by means of supporting means, said supporting means are swirl means which swirl means are positioned such that they decrease the swirling motion of the gas being discharged via the gas outlet conduit.
11. (New) The swirl tube separator according to claim 3, wherein the pin extends from the interior of the gas outlet conduit into the tubular housing and wherein the pin is fixed within the gas outlet conduit by means of supporting means, said supporting means are swirl means which swirl means are positioned such that they decrease the swirling motion of the gas being discharged via the gas outlet conduit.
12. (New) The swirl tube separator according to claim 1, wherein the inlet for introducing the gas solids mixture and the gas outlet conduit are arranged at one end of the

tubular housing and the solids outlet opening is positioned at the opposite end of said housing.

13. (New) The swirl tube separator according to claim 2, wherein the inlet for introducing the gas solids mixture and the gas outlet conduit are arranged at one end of the tubular housing and the solids outlet opening is positioned at the opposite end of said housing.

14. (New) The swirl tube separator according to claim 3, wherein the inlet for introducing the gas solids mixture and the gas outlet conduit are arranged at one end of the tubular housing and the solids outlet opening is positioned at the opposite end of said housing.

15. (New) The swirl tube separator according to claim 4, wherein the inlet for introducing the gas solids mixture and the gas outlet conduit are arranged at one end of the tubular housing and the solids outlet opening is positioned at the opposite end of said housing.